

December 26, 1981 and December 28, 1981

I delivered 200 copies of the "Did you hear the bells on the 17th" page and of the announcement of the meeting on January 7, 1982 to Mrs. Buberniak at the Good Will store on South Main Street on Saturday morning. She said she would give them to John for insertion in the copies of the Sunday papers that he distributes on Canaan Street. Before stopping at Good Will, I dropped off Part II of my history of Carbondale City Hall at the news office. I gave it to Sam and he left it on David's desk. HLRP, DWP and I then went to Scranton to do shirt shopping and such. The two hundred copies of the above-described fliers were folded by myself and various members of the family on Christmas Day. There were about 500 copies in all and I left the 300 other copies with David, i.e., with Sam to give to David when he returned from his Pittsburgh trip. I told Mrs. Buberniak that I would be at City Hall at 9 A.M. on Monday morning and asked her to tell John. At 9 A.M. I arrived at City Hall and so did John. We carted out records from the fourth level of the tower that have been covered by years of pigeon manure. A large pile of city records were uncovered, literally, during the course of the day. We put them in a pile out under the roof on top of the three-story wing. We also found bottles, gas fixtures, glass globes, and various political posters for Governors of PA in the tower. John had a grand time looking under the floor boards on top of the three-story wing and we found some old letters and police memos and such. One letter was addressed to Sam Jones. All of these objects were taken from the tower and either put in a pile out on top of the three-story wing or, if the objects were clean papers, we carried them down to the book rooms on the third floor. We worked from 9 A.M. to about 10:30 when John suggested we go down to the donut place for a bit and off we went. He insisted on buying and I had a coffee and he had milk and his specialty, two home-cut donuts. We stayed there for about 15 minutes and then went back to our labors: cleaning the Augean stables. John seemed tired. He mentioned that he had been ill last week and that perhaps explains it. I, of course, was tirelessly engaged in saving the city records and the building and paid no attention to anything else. I did have a 1:30 P.M. dentist's appointment and so about 1 P.M. I stopped and went down to the bathroom on the second floor and cleaned up and brushed my teeth. At about 1:30 P.M. John and I parted at the front of the City Building, i.e., Carbondale City Hall. At the dentist's, I thanked Horlacher for putting me in touch with his son and said that I had had a wonderful visit with him and that he (the son) had written a very nice letter for the Committee. Dr. Horlacher seemed pleased that things were working out. As I had my teeth cleaned, I interviewed Dr. Horlacher, as I frequently do. I asked him questions about the paste with which he was cleaning my teeth and I asked him about the photograph (?) perhaps a water color on his wall of the Pennsylvania Dental School perhaps University of Pennsylvania dental school. He was more than pleased and willing to chat about it. He never talks while working on teeth. Every chance that I had, I talked to him. The visit was effortless: I had no cavities and he cleaned my teeth and that was it. John Buberniak reported that the 50-50 raffle tickets will be ready on January 4. John and I stopped in to see Tom Brennan and that was very pleasant. We stopped in after having taken coffee on Monday morning. Charlotte Moro was there when we arrived and so was Mr. Burrell (the father of Joe who is on the Committee). I think Mr. Burrell is the head of the Columbia Hose Company. The visit was very easy. Tom and John seem to be kindred spirits. Tom told me that whatever garbage and manure that is carried out of the building can be piled outside the building and the city garbage people will carry it away. I can not recall the name of the person who Tom said would see to it that the garbage was carried away. During the course of our work in the tower on Monday, John stated: "You can't believe how I love this building." I am ecstatic to have someone like John involved in this project. He is an extraordinary young man and an indispensable member of the Committee.

Thursday, January 7, 1982

I worked very late at the office on Wednesday typing RWS's 30 Cornelia proposal and I decided at that time that I would take off Thursday and Friday and devote my full energies to Carbondale City Hall. I got at my usual time and took the 9 A.M. Trailways bus to Scranton where I arrived at 11:30 A.M. and walked to the bus street and as I was selecting the person I would ask about the Carbondale bus, the Carbondale bus pulled in and before I knew it I was on my way to Carbondale where I arrived about an hour later; the fare \$1.05 from Scranton to Carbondale. I got off the bus across from City Hall and walked up Main Street looking at CCH and then went into Newberry's and bought a small bag of M&Ms and then went to the NEWS office. DJB was not there and I was getting some things together to leave for him when he came in the door. I gave him several copies of the proposed agenda for the meeting that night, a copy of the most recent two articles (Carbondale's Third City Hall--architecture and history and Carbondale's Third City Hall--description). I also gave him my file copy of the PHMC application. He seemed to be very impressed by everything I handed to him, and said he didn't know where I found the time to do everything that I do. We walked down to the Liberty bank to get a check for the printing costs (about 10 dollars) for the 50/50 raffle tickets. It was a very friendly walk and chat. The cover letter that I put with the most recent two proposed articles suggested that I write an additional series for the NEWS on the older buildings of Carbondale and DJB said yes. I took my leave of DJB saying I would see him at about 7 P.M. at City Hall. I then went to the Post Office and picked up the letters from the Post Office Box 161 and then called Dad who picked me up in a few minutes. At the Homestead, I chatted, rested, ate dinner and then went off to the 7:30 P.M. meeting in Carbondale Council Chambers. I arrived at about 7 P.M. and ran into Joe Burrell in the parking lot. We had a friendly chat. In the lobby of CCH I lingered and JVB and DJB and others soon arrived. I went up to the Council Chambers and put down my things and then went back down to the lobby and Fred Olver came in and we chatted. I didn't recognize some of the people. I gave them all a copy of the proposed agenda. At 7:30 P.M. I went up and we began the meeting. John Graytock arrived just as we were starting. Rev. and Mrs. Pullis were there. I read the three letters (Mancuso, Horlacher, Lewis) to the group assembled. DJB gave a financial report. We discussed insurance--Rev. Pullis suggested getting a rider to the city's policy and the point was made that the city's insurance policy was not paid up. We didn't resolve this point. DJB was going to check into the city's policy at Tomaine's Agency. The subject of incorporation came up and Jean Colville suggested that I take care of it and so I will. The blocking off of the windows in the tower was raised and Joe Burrell and Jim Brownell and Tom Brennan will take care of that. We were then given the tickets for sale. I took 101 tickets. At the conclusion of the meeting Graytock came forward to be friendly and let us know what he had done for the Bicentennial effort. He was the only person of the 100 that I invited by post card who came to the meeting. I hope he gets involved and Bob Tomaine tells me that Graytock is an important fellow to get involved in the work of the Committee and so I hope he does. He was very instrumental in the Bicentennial work and hopefully he will get involved in the right way with the present efforts of the Committee. At the conclusion of the meeting, Bob Tomaine, JVB, a friend of his, and I went to Mister Donut for the usual post-meeting caucus. That was all very easy and relaxed. I was feeling very frustrated. I wanted action on CCH and I had the impression that everyone was twiddling his or her thumbs. I stated to Bob Tomaine and JVB that I would go into the tower on Friday and clean up some of the pigeon manure, which is what I did. I got 41 of WSP's empty fertilizer bags from the barn and garage and arrived at CCH (HLRP gave me a ride) at about 10 A.M. and ascended the stairs, carrying the bags and a shovel and wearing a pair of WSP's boots. At about 3:30 P.M. JVB arrived and I had just finished